C.I.A. to Release 90,000 Pages On Kennedy's Assassination

By TIM WEINER
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WASHINGTON, Aug. 19 — The Central Intelligence Agency will make public to the National Archives on Monday 90,000 pages of documents relating to the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy, far more than previously reported, a C.I.A. spokesman said today.

A report by Reuters published in The New York Times today erroneously said that only 23,000 pages of documents would be made public. The news agency said today that its report had been based on "an incomplete account provided to Reuters" by the C.I.A.

The 23,000 pages are already en route to the Archives, the C.I.A. spokesman, David French, said today. Those documents, most of them partly censored, are from the intelligence agency's file on Lee Harvey Oswald. Together with 12,000 pages previously made public, the 23,000 pages represent more than 95 percent of the agency's Oswald file, Mr. French said.

The 90,000 additional pages of C.I.A. documents to be made public Monday include records from the Warren Commission and the House Committee on Assassinations.

Papers from the Kennedy, Johnson and Ford Presidential libraries, including records from the Rockefeller Commission that reported in 1975 on improper C.I.A. activities in the United States, also will be made public.

In all, 37,000 pages of Kennedy assassination documents in the C.I.A.'s possession remain secret: 20,000 pages from the House committee; 7,000 that include information being withheld by other agencies, like the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and 10,000 pages that the C.I.A. itself refuses to disclose Mr. French said.

In 1992, Congress ordered that nearly all documents on the Kennedy assassination be sent to the National Archives for public disclosure. The law requires a description of documents withheld and reasons for withholding them. It also requires a review by a Presidential panel that could compel disclosure. President Clinton has not appointed that panel, which Congress required to be set up last January.

Some 150,000 microfilmed pages of assassination-related material, mostly indices and appendices, are being withheld subject to discussions with the yet-to-be-appointed panel, the C.I.A. said.

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